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# the Monster Times

GODZILLA  
KING OF THE  
MONSTERS!  
PAGE 10.

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Ancient  
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## 12 GIANT PREHISTORIC MONSTER POSTERS INSIDE!

BEAST FROM 20,000 FATHOMS!  
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DINOSAURUS! REPTILICUS!  
GIANT BEHEMOTH! GORGON!  
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Stone-Age Issue!





# THE VALLEY OF GWANGI!

**TERRIFYING!**

...enter  
Forbidden Valley  
at your  
own risk!

**AMAZING!**

...a world that  
still exists as it  
did at the  
beginning  
of time.

## VALLEY OF Gwangi!

By Tom Rogers

This is one Ray Harryhausen effort that just didn't make it. It's really a poor combination of KING KONG, MIGHTY JOE YOUNG, the original LOST WORLD, and a couple of other gruesome greats. Cowboys (no less) capture a living allosaurus and display it in a circus; naturally, the beast escapes and runs rampant till movie's end. While the animation was very good, the plot and actors need help that just wasn't forthcoming.

In 1912, a gypsy is found dying near the secret entrance to a Forbidden Valley in Mexico. The hapless boy contains a tiny animal which his brother takes and sells to the T.J. Brockmeyer Wild West Show. When an unsavory-looking British paleontologist named Brensky identifies the small, full-grown creature as being a coelacanth—a three-toed prehistoric beast, believed to have been extinct for millions of years—everyone is naturally astounded.

Tuck Kirby, Broadway, and a local boy called Lope go to tell T.J. Brensky, an old and blind gypsy who, it is said, found them to the Forbidden Valley. When the referee, Brensky, informs her that the unknown beast—which they call "Dinob"—is in a tank at T.J. Brensky's circus. That night, Brensky and two men steal the little animal and take toward the Forbidden Valley. They believe that an evil entity called "Gwangi" will punish them if the real beast is not returned to its homeland. Unknown to the gypsies, Brensky is following them. Tuck

is trailing him, and Lope is right behind. Eventually, Brensky reaches her destination, at the entrance to the hidden valley, she releases the coelacanth and sends it galloping inside. By the time Tuck and the others arrive, the gypsies have left. The two take care until daylight, but during the night one of their horses is carried off by a flying pterodactyl, which they never see.

The following morning, Brensky and some of her men arrive after having loaded Tuck because they believe he stole Dinob. Together, everyone endures the entrance way, and then they ride through it. They see and chase their escaped coelacanth, but a pterodactyl saw open down on them and screeches up Lope. The boy struggles with the beast, and Brensky is to bind its neck as then broken by one of the men, and at this point Brensky realizes just what a fantastic discovery they have made: prehistoric creatures exist in the 20th century, enclosed in this valley that is surrounded by high cliffs. When some of the men try to leave a

speedy, two-legged animal, they almost run smack into a vicious allosaurus! Gwangi! Everyone turns and flees to the safety of a cave in the side of a nearby cliff. From there, they watch as a massive, horned quadruped known as a tyrannosaurus challenges Gwangi. After a terrible battle, the two-legged giant kills its opponent. It then turns its attention toward the humans, but they manage to chase the creature away by using fire. Later, they manage to capture Gwangi by following him on horseback and lassoing him, but he is too powerful, and the men retreat back to the cave.

The next morning Gwangi returns and the good guys attempt to ride out of the Forbidden Valley. The allosaurus succeeds in grabbing and devouring one of the men, but the others escape through the small entranceway. Still hungry, the stupid beast wedges itself between some rocks and waits as a vehicle that looks out the monster. The men consider killing the monster, but then they change their minds and decide to put Gwangi on display at the Wild West Show. Brensky immediately agrees to this, and



Gwangi escapes from his steel prison, and prepares to charge forward on the people around him.



As his loyal horses look on, Gwangi battles a vicious tyrannosaurus to the death.

a large wooden cage—on wheels—a quickly built to transport the awesome creaturely back to civilization. As soon as the cart is finished, the cowboys transport Gwangi to the circus, and an enormous multi cage is hastily constructed to contain the impressively deified exhibition.

On the day that "Gwangi the Great" is scheduled to be revealed to the public, the grandstands are full to capacity. Everyone wants to see the forbidden monster. The show has never done so well before this, and Brensky is overjoyed. Unfortunately, however, Brensky and his men happen see are also present. Because they believe that evil will befall them if Gwangi is not returned to the Forbidden Valley, the witch instructs her offspring to free the beast. He reaches inside the cage, and looses the bolts on the door. Just before the huge curtain covering Gwangi's cage is removed, the dinosaur gets its revenge: When the allosaurus is revealed to the public, the gypsy creature in terror just before he is eaten. Gwangi's tail

accidentally pokes out the gate, and the creature escapes. The crowd panics and runs for the exits, in the pandemonium, Brensky is trampled to death. The carnivorous creature battles an elephant, and after the monster wins it goes after the townspeople. Gwangi soon traps Tuck, Brensky and Lope in a large coliseum, but Tuck grabs a medieval lance and cuts it into the angry dinosaur. Duly hurt, the thing attacks ever more crazily and dies in the resulting inferno.

Gwangi is gone, but the Valley isn't. Will there be a sequel to this film?

**VALLEY OF GWANGI (1965):** Written: Ross MacKenzie; Directed by: James H. Hanft; Screenplay by: William J. Bunt; Executive Producers: Ray Harryhausen, James H. Hanft; Producers: Ray Harryhausen, James H. Hanft; Director of Photography: John G. Smith; Music by: Elmer Bernstein; Editor: Robert J. Kline; Production Designer: Robert J. Kline; Production Office: Ray Harryhausen Productions; Released by: Ray Harryhausen Productions.

The most amazing of all possible worlds!  
Teeming with prehistoric monsters  
who first roamed the earth  
150 million years ago!

20  
Century-Fox  
presents

SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE'S

# THE LOST WORLD

AN  
IRWIN ALLEN  
PRODUCTION

## Lost World!

By Jason Thomas

Irwin Allen is responsible for this third-rate remake of the fine **LOST WORLD** of 1925, in which a stop-motion brontosaurus was brought to London. In the newer version, the explorers remain on the prehistoric plateau, fighting blown-up lizards, fake giant spiders, and carnivorous plants animated by wires. This is one *Lost World* that should have retained that status.

When Professor George Challenger rears to London from South America with the outrageous claim that he has discovered a "lost world," members of the Zoological Institute doubt his word. Therefore, he decides to lead an expedition back to the dinosaur hilled plateau. As soon as the party of seven men and one woman arrives at the destination by helicopter, the members begin exploring the mysterious jungle. It is not long afterward that a giant lizard manly twenty knots their aircraft over a cliff, destroying it. They are now stranded, because the steep cliffs are unscalable.

There are many dangers in the primitive jungle, including people-eating plants, one of the men becomes trapped by such a plant, but his companions manage to save him without too much effort. Finally, the group stands upon an enormous monster—a dinosaur. Ready for Challenger, everyone is very upset that these things hang out in this neighborhood.

When they are attacked by a pterodactyl, they frighten it all with rifle fire. Soon afterward, they catch sight of a seventeen-year-old native Indian girl. She runs away

from them, and then past a gigantic spider web. Mother chases her, and is forced to shoot an enormous snakehead that attempts to make him his next meal. The female gets herself grabbed by another giant spider, but her pursuer blinks it and cuts her loose. She is then forced to accompany the group

through the jungle, hopefully to find them out of it.

Later on, they find the diary of Burton White, an explorer who has been missing for three years. The record reveals that his companions had been captured by someone, and that he would be next. It also mentions that there might be a diamond treasure, and that Houston—who is now with Challenger and the others—never showed up to rescue them. Houston admits everything, and confesses that he had been delayed by a "fascinating" woman, because of this, four men apparently died.

As they progress through the lush terrain, they come across a number of tremendous creatures that fight against each other whenever they get the opportunity. Furious only, the party is not attacked by these monstrousities.

That night, after the good guys have camped, some noises in the nearby bushes cause a few of the men to investigate. The

native girl uses this opportunity to make her escape, and with her goes their chance of finding an exit from this cursed land of prehistoric life.

Malone and Jennifer Holmes become separated from the rest, and they are forced to run from a dinosaur that chases them until another oversized lizard happens by and attacks the first one. While the beasts do battle, the man and woman return to their camp. Upon arriving, they discover that everyone else has been taken prisoner by the local headhunters, and they meet the same fate. All are then taken to an underground village, and thrown into a cave.

For some reason or another, the native girl whom the group had captured now secretly leads them to a spot, and she is the only one left alive from the previous expedition, and this spot is where the cave is located. Next, White gives them a few modern weapons, and tells them how to escape from the *Lost World*.

The native girl accompanies the good guys, but White remains behind. After they carefully make their way through a tunnel lined with grasping vines, the group begins a journey through a volcanic cavern. When White, the Indian discover that their "prowlers" are gone, and they pursue the small band. Gomez uses his bomb to start a fire, which stops the natives, as they are passing through a subterranean dinosaur graveyard.

Later, they find a supply of diamonds and some dinosaur eggs. At this point, Gomez announces that his younger brother had been a member of White's expedition, and he holds Houston responsible for his death. He is about to kill Houston, when suddenly a huge lizard surfaces from a boiling river and attacks them. Costa is eaten alive, but Houston saves

himself, and Professor Challenger has his proof that the *Lost World* really existed.

Gomez's life—then, his debt is paid. Gomez then sacrifices his life while saving the creature to be captured in molten lava.

Soon afterward, the survivors escape from the cavern. From the ground below, they watch in horror and relief as a massive volcanic eruption destroys the plateau. The only things left are the Dutch girl, one dinosaur egg, and a handful of diamonds. The group is safe, and Professor Challenger has his proof that the *Lost World* really existed.

THE LOST WORLD (1960) 20th Century Fox. 96 min. Directed by Irwin Allen. Screenplay by Irwin Allen and Charles Bennett. Based on Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Lost World" by H. G. Wells. Cast: George Hearn, David Hedison, Fernando Lamas, Jay Novak.

An enormous snake-eating spider attempts to eat an anthropologist that happened to get too close to the monster.





# King Kong!

By Howard Phillips

There's a soft spot in even the hardest of hearts for this magnificent screen simian. The 56' gorilla was forcibly abducted from his beloved Skull Island abode by a ruthless band of greedy capitalists—and like Mighty Joe Young—was thrust into a world he didn't even create, let alone understand. Today, his strapping son has adopted his name, and carries on his fine fright tradition for Japan's Toho Films.

Big movie producer Carl Denham hires a ship and gets a crew together in order to shoot a film of an uncharted island. After finding a beautiful woman in size in the machine picture, he sets out for Skull Island. When they finally arrive, the expedition discovers that the natives are none too friendly to strangers. However, the Nagas decide that the blond female, Ann Darrow, will make a terrific heroine in "Kong." Since Denham isn't too crazy about having his leading lady presided in some unknown arena, he and his group depart from the island to make other plans.

That night, the natives get into their canoes and adrop Ann from the ship. After a lively ancient ceremony, they drag her through the gate of a huge wooden wall that divides the island in half, and tie her to the affixed sacred star. They then go back to their own side, close the gate, and start banging on a giant gong. Meanwhile, the natives realize that Ann is not on board their vessel, so they hop into lifeboats and set out to rescue her. Although the natives



King Kong really went when a giant gong was used to try to get him to the sacred star.

encounter the good gong, the latter are armed with guns and grenades filled with knockout gas.

The heroes arrive just in time to peer through slits in the wall and see a gorilla going—Kong!—flashes tall trees in order to get to Ann, who is screaming her bloody head. After screaming her for a minute, the overgrown monkey gruffs from the woman and carries her off. By the time the good guys get the gate open, Kong is gone.

As some of the next fellow Kong's trail of destruction, the others remain behind to make sure the natives don't do anything nasty. The pet's partners—led by Denham and Jack Eissel—are soon attacked by an angry steersman. The beast charges, and it takes a bit of bullets and a gas grenade to bring the monster down. As they pass by the massive dinosaur, they realize that they have entered a world that has probably not changed since the Cretaceous period. Everyone is understandably frightened, but they decide to go on. Eventually, they come to a river; after building a raft, they start across it, but a huge water creature suddenly appears and swallows their canoe. Some of the men are killed, and all of the weapons are lost in the attack. The survivors swim to shore, but the creature follows them and slays a few more men. Finally, they reach their opponent, but then they come to a cliff. The only way across is by way of a taller tree, which the men are forced to ascend in order to escape a charging intruder. With the hornet least on one side, Kong shows up on the other side and starts shaking the bridge. All, except for Denham and Eissel, are thrown off the tree; they fall into a valley, and are passed on by enormous spiders and lizards.

Suddenly, down along the trees where Kong left her, Ann screams because a flying monster



Not even mighty Kong was powerful enough to meet the greatest only in the world—New York.

us men in coming toward her. Kong arrives just in time to save the woman, but in the ensuing battle, she is nearly crushed to death. After a static struggle, the ape breaks the jaws of his foe. His first poke up his human nature and braves onto a nearby door. Does after he enters what appears to be his home, a pleasure attitude him for a hole that passes through the cave. As the outland monster battles for his life against the impudently creature, Ann crawls outside and is grabbed by a flying pterodactyl. King kills his opponent just in time to reach the airborne babe. He forces the thing down, and then breaks it back. In all this confusion,

Denham arrives and escapes with Ann.

The man and woman reach the wall a minute or two before Kong does. Denham, the natives, and even the natives struggle to keep the gate closed, but the monster breaks through and destroys the village in his mad effort to find the golden-haired woman. Ultimately, the good guys use a gas grenade on the brute, and he subsides. They then hold a giant raft, and float him in New York City, where he is displayed to the public.

When Kong is on exhibit for the first time, some very serious photographers take Ann's picture, and the ape thinks that the flashbulbs will harm her. He breaks his metal bonds, and wrecks the show room. Denham and Denham help Ann to escape, but the gorilla goes out into the city streets and begins smashing everything within reach. He follows Ann's scent, but before he reaches her he destroys a packed elevated train and slaughters a lot of people.

Eventually, Kong leaves Ann, he grabs the woman and carries her off to the very top of the Empire State Building. There, he is attacked by a squadron of Army fighters. Although the monster managed to down two of his attackers, the machine guns of the others mortally wound him. He falls to the pavement far below, and Manhattan's great excitement was a bit with the news of the slaying of the tremendous monster.

**KING KONG (1933, RKO, 100 min.) Directed by Merian C. Cooper. Screenplay by Rouben Mamoulian. Starring Fay Wray, Robert Watson and Maureen O. Connor. Special effects by Willis Goldbeck. Screenplay by Fay Wray. Music by Elmer Bernstein. Film by Elmer Bernstein. Screenplay by Merian C. Cooper.**





This is a headshot of the model of the prehistoric Redoubt that Ray Harryhausen selected for this film.

# The Beast

by James Thomas

FROM 20,000 FATHOMS

None other than master animator Ray Harryhausen worked his stop-motion magic to bring a rhesosaurus to celluloid life in this one. This towering survivor of a fictitious species went around demolishing ships, lighthouses, people, buildings, and whatever else it could lay its paws on, and did so with much monstrous panache. **THE BEAST** FROM 20,000 FATHOMS pioneered the giant prehistoric monster genre, for which we owe him our undying gratitude.

The movie begins with a nuclear beach-club in the Arctic. Shortly after the power deactivation, a scientist named Tom Nesbit is taken to the sea in order to travel to a more desirable climate. Tom, meanwhile, has made friends with Professor Thurgood Elton and lovely Ms. Lee Hunter, both of whom are connected with a local museum of natural history. When Nesbit finally succeeds in getting a survivor of one of the shipwrecks to identify the new prehistoric monster that he had picked, the others decide to believe the fantastic stories about a long dinosaur.

While they are making plans to track the creature, the monster decides to attack a lighthouse that is located on the coast of Massachusetts. In the dead of night, the giant rips the tall structure in half, killing the men



Legend was made of the monster, the BEAST made it and in 1958 it was

who are inside it. (This scene, incidentally, is very similar to "The Fog Horn," Ray Bradbury's original tale that inspired the film.)

When the report of the wrecked lighthouse is received by our heroes, they decide that the beast is moving down the coast, headed for what is referred to as "the Hudson canyon off New York's shore." They proceed to the

plan, and Professor Elton and another man survey the underwater area in a diving bell. After a short time, the giant quadruped appears. Before the startled eyes of the divers, the beast eats a shark and an octopus—whole—and then heads toward the diving bell. The professor, overjoyed at the opportunity to examine such an incredible specimen, makes a partial radio call to the surface just before the monster tries to gobble up the miracle diver. Both men are killed, but at least the world has been warned that such a threat exists.

An Army and Navy units mobilize to combat the awesome monstrosity. It takes its way to New York City's busy Fifth Street Pier. The populace can hardly believe their eyes when they see the mighty rhesosaurus emerge from the water and begin lumbering toward the business district of Manhattan. Crowds of pedestrians run in fear as the slow-moving monster walks along the city streets, searching for food. It crushes automobiles as easily as a human squashes an ant, and no obstacle is able to hold it back. (One quickly spreads, and many people are hurt by the faster crowd. Some smart individuals seek refuge in the subway to escape the oncoming petrification, while others run inside buildings. No one is safe, though, as the dinosaur leaps buildings and smashes everything in its way.)

As the creature moves, police units are quickly mobilized and sent to the disaster area. Stopgap-servicing patrolmen do their best to hold the crowd, but they fail because of their inadequate weapons. However, by accident, units of the National Guard have taken up defensive positions throughout the battle zone. A ring of portable searchlights, line, strategic roadblocks, and high beams were have been hastily rigged around nearby a mile of city blocks. In the river, underwater

man have been arrested, and anti-submarine nets raised.

When the beast attempts to break through the Army's cordon, the high voltage electricity and a number of bazooka shells manage to wound the dinosaur. After a harbor off into the darkness, heavily armed military planes begin following its huge bloodguts. Soon, many people have to be hospitalized because the creature's blood is radioactive and carries a highly malignant prehistoric disease.



Even the most ancient has a tough time holding this movie from a prehistoric age.

Realizing that explosives can no longer be used against the inhuman adversary because they would spread the disease, Nesbit suggests that a radioactive isotope shall be dropped up and fired into the rhesosaurus' open wound. This will confirm the monster's internal deterioration due to the original dose of radiation from the nuclear bomb test, and at the same time it will keep the dinosaur in one piece.

When the lighthouse shows up at the island, all defense units converge on the area. As the rhesosaurus wrecks the monster-repeller monster rule, an expert pilot manages to shoot the special projectile into the gaping wound. The beast thrashes about in agony as the wooden structure catches on fire. The suffering animal somehow makes its way out of the wooden mine, and then dies. The beast is dead, but there are still monsters frozen in the Arctic waiting to be released.

**BEAST FROM 20,000 FATHOMS (1958)**  
Written: Ben J. Wynn. Directed by: Robert L. Lipp. Screenplay by: Lee Minkoff and Fred Fendley. Story: "The Prehistoric" by Ray Bradbury. Special effects by: Ray Harryhausen. Music: Paul J. Smith. Title: "The Beast" by Paul J. Smith. (C) 1958, Ray Harryhausen.



## Black Scorpion!

They came from out of the bowels of the earth, animated by Wills O'Brien and bent upon having humanity for dinner. Not even the most modern weaponry could dent the horrific hides of these oversized, poisonous babies—until the final credits rolled, at least.

Without warning, a new volcano pushes its way to the surface in a sparsely populated country area of Mexico. The ever-vigilant seismograph of the University of Mexico records the eruption as being the most violent of modern times.

As soon as the onslaught of Nature

subsides, two geologists—Hank Scott and Arturo Arzoo—are sent to the area to conduct a preliminary survey. When they stop at a farmhouse to get some water after sunset, they discover some extensive damage to the building. They also find a desiccated patrol car and the worn and battered, bloodstained corpse of a policeman.

The next day, the travelers reach the earthquake stricken town of San Lorenzo. There, they are informed that other missing bodies of human and cattle were found since the eruption, and the people are very frightened. Later on, the town doctor tells the men that the dead policemen only had one large wound at the base of his torso, in addition, capsize footprints of an unknown creature were found around the farmhouse.

On the following night, some telephone operators are slaughtered by an enormous black scorpion. The towering beast smashes their truck, and stings them in the base of their necks with the end of its legs full before eating them. Immediately afterward, a second scorpion attacks the ranch of Teresa Alvarez—which is where Hank and Arturo are visiting at the time. Rifle bullets fail to stop the armored super-creature as it feasts on the pampered cattle. Everyone runs for the horses and trucks as the volcano explodes into deadly fiery spasms. Lava pours down its sides, and once again San Lorenzo suffers from the effects of the quakes. As the sun sets, another scorpion mauls the town, and panic reigns everywhere. The few soldiers stationed in the town use their automatic weapons against the infernal attacks. In no time, no people are scooped up and devoured by the giant.

Early the next day, the geologists and some soldiers and horsemen set out in search of the nest of what is referred to as "Beastman Baiter Rex." One of the riders finds a large crater, but then he and his horse fall into it. Hank and Arturo decide to go down into the pit, so a mine is set for. Carrying rifles, poison gas tanks, and other equipment, they descend in a huge cavern. When they reach bottom, the men begin searching for the missing horseman, but unknown to them, a young boy has sneaked himself behind the

equipment. After they have gone away, he decides to take a look around. In the caverns are scorpions, earthworms, and spiders—all of a gigantic size, somehow, they had remained dormant beneath the ground for millions of years, until the volcano reactivated them.

Eventually, the boy and the geologists are reunited, and they make their precarious way back to the surface. Hank estimates that there are about fifty of the overgrown creatures in the pit. Since there is no better way of eliminating this threat, it is decided that the opening should be sealed with dynamite in order to trap the monsters forever. Without further delay, the task is accomplished.

A few days later, Hank and Arturo are summoned to Mexico City because their

evidence that some scorpions may have escaped from underground. That very night, the Monterey Mexico City express train is derailed by a giant scorpion. Other scorpions suddenly appear, and many passengers are injured and killed in a violent bloodbath. The trainmen escape as no sound with hanger that many of them might never see again.

Monterrey later, a black scorpion is so huge that it throws the actor starfish, appears. It mercilessly pounces on its smaller brothers and quickly kills them all, then it turns its attention to the last detective that was trying so desperately to escape.

Mexico City is placed under martial law, and a complete blackout is ordered. As the

hugely carnivore starts the rifle, tanks and other heavy weapons are moved into a nearby station. A special self-propelled, elevated weapon is also brought there. Soon afterward, an army truck filled with tons of beef is the necessary to the battlefield. Powerful shells explode on and around the beast, ineffectively. The tanks move in for a lopsided kill, but no one is any one of them come within reach the monster grabs and destroys them. Finally, the special weapon is fired, and an electrified metal harpoon strikes the monster in the throat. Shortly, another scorpion bleeds, the monster slumps to the ground and dies its poison will be analyzed, synthesized, and used against any other giant scorpions that may appear in the future. For now, the nightmare is ended.

Look out THE BLACK SCORPION is headed for a nest—YIP!



In a huge spectacle arena, the largest BLACK SCORPION of them all is "bugged" by tanks and other armored vehicles.

**BLACK SCORPION (1957)** Warner Bros. 88 mins. Directed by Edward Ludwig. Screenplay by Lewis Meltzer and Robert Cannon. Story by Paul Verano. Special Effects by Frank Frazetta. Running Time: 88 mins. Country: Canada. Rating: M-16. Award: President Film.



# INVINCIBLE... INDESTRUCTIBLE!

WHAT WAS THIS BEAST BORN  
FIFTY MILLION  
YEARS OUT  
OF TIME?



SEE: MISSILES AND ATOM BOMBS POWERLESS!

SEE: CIVILIZATION RIOTING WITH FEAR!

SEE: A MIGHTY CITY TRAMPLED TO DESTRUCTION!

## Reptilicus!

by Tim Rogers

Not only do we get stop-action model animation in this ferocious flick, but a totally original screen dinosaur as well. If any part of this creature is separated from its body, the severed piece grows into a whole other fiend! Not bad! And it was high time some country other than Japan or these United States got zombed by a prehistoric beast.



Charles Corbett brought out this Prehistoric action back in August '71 at a 16-20 with TM.

The gigantic, evil-representing monster struts through a city, on stepping properly and taking time to...  
to survive. When the beast has satiated his...  
to survive. When the beast has satiated his...  
to survive. When the beast has satiated his...

to survive. When the beast has satiated his...  
to survive. When the beast has satiated his...  
to survive. When the beast has satiated his...  
to survive. When the beast has satiated his...

city is ransacked, and the population is helpless. The Army, under the command of General...  
The Army, under the command of General...  
The Army, under the command of General...

When the dinosaur returns to the coast...  
When the dinosaur returns to the coast...  
When the dinosaur returns to the coast...

The military and scientific officials decide...  
The military and scientific officials decide...  
The military and scientific officials decide...

REPTILICUS (1961) AP. Inc. Directed by...  
REPTILICUS (1961) AP. Inc. Directed by...  
REPTILICUS (1961) AP. Inc. Directed by...







# Dinosaurus

By Jason Thomas

Not one, but two dinosaurs ran amok, causing chaos and havoc wherever they roamed, in this dinosaur epic. The population of the tiny island under dinosaurian siege was completely at the mercy of the horrendous pair, but mercy has never been known to be a monster's long suit.



A boy and his dinosaur: Julio befriends a brontosaurus and gets free rides atop the gentle vegetarian.

On a tropical island, Bart Thompson instructs his construction crew to set dynamite charges in the harbor waters. Suddenly, a speedboat carrying a young woman named Betty zooms into the danger area; the explosives go off, and she is swept overboard by a resulting wave. Unhurt, the woman dives underwater to retrieve a portable icebox, but she faints when she sees the terrifying head of a huge monster. Bart rescues Betty, but he does not happen to see the thing that frightened her.

Later, Betty's incredible story is verified. There are actually two perfectly-preserved dinosaurs—a tyrannosaurus rex and a brontosaurus—at the bottom of the channel; they had been in a frozen subterranean river until the explosion freed them. The two beasts are brought to the surface and deposited on dry land by a crane, and Bart hopes to have them transported to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. as soon as possible.

However, that night a storm breaks over the island. A stray lightning bolt strikes the power generator, and arcs over to the prehistoric creatures. They are brought back to life by the tremendous shock, and the elderly night watchman is the only one



The good dinosaur is chased into quicksand by the dastardly meat-eater.

around to witness this phenomenon. He also happens to see that a Cro-Magnon man—who had previously been covered in some mud that was inadvertently brought to the surface—has been reanimated along with the thunder lizards. Frightened, the watchman runs into a shed and lights some sticks of dynamite. The tyrannosaurus traps him, and only he is caught in the explosion.

When Bart and his men investigate, they find gigantic footprints and conclude that the monsters are somehow alive. The islanders are informed of this, and everyone rushes to an old fortress that is located on top of a hill. The valuable construction equipment is also moved to the tall structure.

Meanwhile, Julio, a native boy, finds the brontosaurus and makes friends with it. When he hears the tyrannosaurus' roars, though, he shoots the long-necked vegetarian away for its own good. The rain and darkness hide the boy from the vicious meat-eater, and Julio hopes that the brontosaurus will be alright.

At Betty's home, the caveman breaks in

and tries to eat some artificial fruit, and is then startled by his own reflection in a mirror. Soon after, Julio enters the house and feeds the hungry brute. Unfortunately, two greedy men, named Hacker and Jasper, show up and try to capture the fellow, but their attempt fails and the caveman escapes.

It isn't long afterward that Bart, Betty and another man locate Julio, the Cro-Magnon, and the brontosaurus. The boy has made such a hit with the dinosaur that it allows him to ride on top of it. Afraid for Julio's safety, Betty runs toward the odd trio, but is stopped in her tracks by the sudden appearance of the tyrannosaurus. Acting quickly, the prehistoric man saves Betty by picking her up and hurrying off with her. He takes his blonde burden to an old mine shaft, and they remain there at the caveman's guttural insistence.

Soon afterward, the brontosaurus is forced to combat the tyrannosaurus. After it permits Julio to disembark, it turns and confronts the towering carnivore. Julio tries to aid his inhuman friend, but he only

endangers himself until the caveman reappears and carries him off. Bart and his companion follow the hairy one to the mine shaft, and from there they watch as the brontosaurus is forced into the quicksand and drowned.

Deprived of its huge meal, the tyrannosaurus next assaults the mine shaft. Bart frightens it off with a fire bomb, but this weakens the old wooden supports and starts a slow cave-in. Seemingly from out of nowhere, Hacker shows up and tries to take the "monkeyman" with him. The hairy one attacks him, but is shot before he kills Hacker. He then manages to hold up a beam until the others get out of the tunnel, but the cave-in puts an end to what was really his second life.

Back at the fortress, everyone is frantically trying to prevent the tyrannosaurus from kicking its way into the place. When Bart and his group arrive, the hero decides to try using a mobile crane against the monster. The people who are trapped in the fort watch in awe as the prehistoric beast battles a modern machine. The contrast is fantastic, but the endangered populace is in no mood to appreciate this. After a lengthy struggle, Bart manages to maneuver the monster near the edge of a tall cliff. He then swings the massive crane, and the creature is knocked over the ledge; it goes crashing to its death, never realizing that the thing that killed it was not even alive.

**DINOSAURUS!** (1960) Universal. 85 min. Directed by Irvin S. Yeaworth, Jr. Screenplay by Jean YVES and Dan Webster. Special effects by Tim Barr, Wah Chang and Gene Warren. Starring Ward Ramsey, Kristina Hanson, Paul Lukather, Gregg Martell, Alan Roberts.





"Dismayed was never like this!"

## THE Land Unknown

By Howard Phillips

This cheapie used crude models and men in suits instead of animation for its eerie action. The lost land seems to be situated in a volcanic valley far below sea level, which raises questions like how did the dinosaurs get there, and how was the place formed? Guess we won't be getting any answers at this late date, though.

When the United States Government decides that it wants to know more about a tropical oasis that is located in Antarctica, several Navy ships are dispatched to the frozen land. A helicopter carrying three men and a female news correspondent takes off from the deck of one of these vessels and an aerial investigation of the terrain begins. Soon after the craft reaches the warm water region, a storm breaks. In the resulting darkness, an enormous flying reptile, left over from prehistory, soars past the helicopter. The abrupt contact with the creature damages the vehicle, and the chopper begins to descend at a gradual rate. Jack, the pilot, is unable to stop the descent, and a wrecked antenna prevents him from sending out a distress call.

The helicopter finally crashlands in a dense jungle—to give headsets that below sea level. Jack wastes no time in checking the raft, and he discovers that he cannot repair the damage. To make matters worse, the radio repair is not strong enough to be picked up by rescue units. Hal, the leader of the expedition, tries to reassure everyone that they will soon be rescued. Although they have enough rations to last them for months, they know that the ships have to arrive within

thirty days, and there may not be another expedition for another few years. Not long after their arrival, the group hears a terrifying roar. All of the nearby animals are frightened, and the reason for this soon appears—an oversized tyrannosaurus on foot. The hungry monster spots the downed helicopter, and advances toward it.



The tyrannosaurus attacks what it probably thinks will be its next meal—a grounded helicopter.

Hal, Jack, Steve, and Maggie rush into the aircraft for safety after Hal's 40-caliber pistol fails to slow down the giant. In desperation, Jack starts the engine, and the rotor blades slice a deep path in the monster's chest. The thinking adversary dies at this point, and the chopper is shut down. Upon checking their food, the good guys discover that their supplies have been broken into. As they attempt to salvage what they can, an enormous lizard attacks them. Maggie panics and runs, but the fearsome beast pursues her. Just as it is about to turn her into a meal, a loud, eerie sound is heard: the screams of the reptile.

Maggie is then grabbed by a bearded, mustache-looking man who carries her to a raft and rows her to his riverside cave (Opa!). The fellow is a bit mad, he alone survived a four-man expedition to the Antarctic in 1943. Now, after having been alone for so long, he wants a mate. Maggie. He advises her that

he "controls" the valley's dinosaurs by using a giant couch shell, that was what made the word sound that saved the woman.

Suddenly, the other men show up; they had managed to find the cave by using their own raft. The madman—Charles Hunter—tells them that he will provide them with the proper equipment to fix their vehicle if they will agree to let Maggie remain with him since this is out of the question, they leave while Hunter shouts warnings at them.

Some days later, Jay and Maggie are again attacked by the tyrannosaurus. As Hal bravely leads the monster away from the woman, she accidentally lands into a giant, people-eating plant. The man-controlled thing wraps itself around her, but Hunter shows up in the nick of time and saves her.

Later, she decides to tell the madman that she will remain with him in order to save the other men. He takes the bait, but is soon attacked by a prehistoric sea serpent. Hunter rescues her, but the good guys show up and finally convince him to cooperate with them. While Maggie remains with the lusty man to treat a head wound that he suffered, the others go back to the helicopter.

Just as the repair work is completed, the tyrannosaurus returns. However, before the massive creature reaches the chopper, it runs into the air and comes away. When Maggie and Hunter are located on the river, the woman is lifted onto the chopper. Hunter starts paddling away, but the prehistoric man in a ugly head again, and overruns his raft. Hal fires a flare right into the beast's mouth, and it retreats. He then manages to get Hunter inside the helicopter, and the vehicle runs out of the hot valley.

Soon afterward, the crew reaches the ships, and all are saved. In addition, Hunter is glad that he was rescued from the maddening prehistoric world.



A vicious tyrannosaurus kills the good guys throughout THE LAND UNKNOWN.

LAND UNKNOWN (1967) lowest PG grade. Directed by Hugh Houghton. Screenplay by M. Robinson and Leslie Goring. Music by John G. Brown. Editor—Special Effects by Richard A. Webster. Jack Hunter—Garry Emswiler and Paul Kruger. Maggie—Barbara Jackson. Madman—Shawn Scott. William Phillips—Gordon Kennedy. PH Harvey.











## Gorgo!

by Janet Thomson

Even though this film was named after an errant young dinosaur, the creature's overgrown mom was the real star of this production. After pulverizing London, mother and son went on to star in their own Charlton comic book—as good monsters! What, we ask you, could be more disappointing than a once-destructive dinosaur gone straight!



Mr. Gorgo has little difficulty in demolishing a British destroyer that was sent to stop her advance toward England.

Joe Ryan and Sam Stede are on a salvage mission near Iceland, when all of a sudden an underwater volcano rumbles in the water, and erupts near their ship. In the resulting large, the material is nearly destroyed. The result is caused by the three winds and tremendous waves, but Nature's calamity finally subsides, and the waters return to normal. Soon afterward, the crew discovers that a number of strange-looking sea creatures are floating to the surface. The sea-monsters looking

things are actually fish that have been maddened for millions of years, yet they were obviously alive prior to the volcanic eruption. The things are not a hint of what is to come if small creatures survived the event, why not large ones?

Joe and Sam find a note, a little island on the Irish coast, to make repairs on their craft. From the time they arrive, a man named McClellan tries to drive them away. They later learn that McClellan is employing divers

to bring stolen treasures up from the ocean floor, and he doesn't want competition. In one of these expeditions, a diver is actually frightened to death by something he sees beneath the waves, before he dies, he manages to say one word in his native tongue: "Monster!"

When Joe and Sam do a little diving of their own, they are attacked by an octopus, which is another monster species that was released by the eruption. After they conquer their eight-armed foe, they see a killer shark, but moments later the fish is slain by something huge and undefeatable. That night, the ship's killer reveals itself to some fishermen. Without warning, a 30-foot diameter cone out of the water and crashes into the sea. The monster creature is a progression, and later on the same monstrousness comes to be known as Gorgo. When the giant waves above and break toward the village, everyone joins in fight. It takes a great effort against the thing, but someone throws a torch into Gorgo, and it flares. Some other men pick up flares, sticks, and when these are hurled at the gorgon, it backs off and returns to the sea.

Hoping to capture the monster and exploit him, Joe goes underwater in a bathysphere, while Sam and the crew stand ready on the ship's deck. The shrimp-shaped device, Gorgo's attraction, and the monster grows the diving bell and tries to shake it loose. Joe is nearly killed before his friends drop a huge netting net over the dinosaur. They then secure their thirteen prisoner with heavy chains and more netting. Against the wishes of the Irish authorities, the men decide to make a lot of money by sailing to London and exhibiting Gorgo to the way of the London Circus. When they arrive



"London Bridge is falling down," as the towering monster again attacks a fortress on it.

they parade the giant through the streets on top of a large truck. Eventually, the fortgrounds are ready to contain the monster's captive. When Gorgo is being paraded into his special cage, though, he breaks loose and kills a man before a flame-thrower is used to force the monster into his new abode.

While Gorgo is kept on exhibit in an electrically heated pit, his mother—at 200 feet in height—comes out of the water near New Zealand, in search of her offspring. Failing to find him, she completely destroys the village and its inhabitants, and then proceeds toward London. When contact with the island is broken, a Royal Navy destroyer is dispatched to investigate. The ship sees, lights, and is sunk by the terrible monster, and all hands aboard are lost. The crewmembers push on, despite all attempts of the Royal Navy and Air Force to stop her. Wherever she surfaces, planes and ships far at her but the creature's skin is too tough to be harmed by the powerful shells.

In time, the monster reaches the Thames River. Since he wanted against Gorgo, as all

releases his cargo into the water, and the ship is set on fire. However, the monster falls before the giant, only because the flames sweep across the bay. Since the Army has had time to dig in, everything from pistols to rocket launchers are employed against the beast, but nothing stops him. The Army and Air Force use their full destructive capabilities against the sea monster, but nothing short of a nuclear weapon can hurt her—and perhaps even that would fail. Many buildings and monuments are destroyed by the gorgon and the military force, and a great many lives are lost. The city is in a panic, as landmarks such as the Ben Westminster Abbey, and the Tower Bridge fall before the monster's onslaught.

The towering monster finally reaches the government park where her son is being held captive. For a while, the high-voltage electricity that surrounds Gorgo manages to stop his mother, but not for long. She soon kicks her way through the apparatus, breaks down the barrier, and releases her "little boy." The two return to the ocean without destroying anything else. They are together again, and that is all this creature. They have made me a man that he is not likely to target. London lies in ruins, and the soldiers have given up trying to kill the beast. National brutality has now set out our mechanical strength and man is left behind to lack his words for having been so poor and greedy.

**GORGIO!** (MGM TV 16) Directed by Robert Louis. Screenplay by John Lough and Grant. Cast: George E. Stone, William Bowers, George E. Stone, William Bowers, George E. Stone, William Bowers. (MGM TV 16) Directed by Robert Louis.



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